

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A multi-layer hose constructed to allow tracing back of individual process steps performed during manufacturing of the house hose, the hose comprising:

an opaque, extrudable first layer;

at least one opaque, extrudable second layer connected to the first layer; and

more than one marking section, each marking section comprising more than one letter and/or more than one number arranged in an order that indicates a characteristic of the hose, the marking sections being provided in longitudinally spaced relationship with one another in a recurring mode of arrangement such that at least one marking section can be read when the hose has been divided into sections, the marking sections being arranged between the first layer and the at least one second layer and adapted to be read making use of X rays to determine the characteristic of the hose to thereby allow tracing back of individual process steps performed during manufacturing of the hose.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously Presented) A multi-layer hose according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the first layer and the at least one second layer is made of an elastomer.

4. (Currently Amended) A multi-layer fuel hose for a motor vehicle constructed to allow tracing back of individual process steps performed during manufacturing of the ~~house~~ hose, the hose comprising:

an opaque, extruded inner layer made of rubber;

an opaque, first outer layer made of rubber extruded on the inner layer; and

more than one first marking section arranged between the inner layer and the first outer layer in a longitudinally spaced relationship with one another in a recurring mode of arrangement such that at least one marking section can be read when the hose has been divided into sections, each first marking section comprising more than one letter and/or more than one number arranged in an order that indicates a characteristic of the hose and adapted to be read making use of X rays to determine the characteristic of the hose to thereby allow tracing back of individual process steps performed during manufacturing of the hose.

5. (Previously Presented) A multi-layer fuel hose according to claim 4, wherein the rubber is an ethylene acrylate rubber.

6. (Previously Presented) A multi-layer hose according to claim 1, wherein the marking sections are formed by an ink.

7. (Previously Presented) A multi-layer hose according to claim 6, wherein the ink contains an iodine compound.

8. (Previously Presented) A multi-layer hose according to claim 7, wherein the iodine compound is iopamidole.

9. (Previously Presented) A multi-layer hose according to claim 7, wherein the ink contains potassium iodide.

10. (Previously Presented) A multi-layer hose according to claim 6, wherein the ink contains potassium bromide.

11. (Previously Presented) A multi-layer hose according to claim 6, wherein the ink has been applied to the hose by means of a printer.

12. (Previously Presented) A multi-layer hose according to claim 11, wherein the printer is an ink-jet printer.

13. (Previously Presented) A multi-layer hose according to claim 11, wherein the printer is a tampon printer.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Withdrawn) A method for producing the multi-layer hose according to claim 1, comprising:

extruding an opaque first layer;

then applying more than one marking section on the first layer, each marking section comprising more than one letter and/or more than one number arranged in an order that indicates a characteristic of the hose, the marking sections being applied in longitudinally spaced relationship with one another in a recurring mode of arrangement, wherein the marking sections are adapted to be read making use of X rays to determine the characteristic of the hose to thereby allow tracing back of individual process steps performed during manufacturing of the hose; and

then extruding at least one opaque second layer on top of the marking sections.

16. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 15, wherein an adhesion promoter is applied between the first layer and the at least one second layer, and the marking sections are applied by printing onto the first layer.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Canceled)

19. (Previously Presented) A multi-layer hose according to claim 1, wherein the characteristic of the hose indicated by the marking sections is a date or a production number.

20. (Previously Presented) A multi-layer hose according to claim 1, wherein the characteristic of the hose indicated by the marking sections is a material.

21. (Previously Presented) A multi-layer fuel hose according to claim 4, which further comprises:

an opaque, second outer layer made of rubber extruded on the inner layer and; and

more than one second marking section arranged between the first outer layer and the second outer layer in a longitudinally spaced relationship with one another in a recurring mode of arrangement, each second marking section comprising more than one letter and/or more than one number and adapted to be read making use of X rays.

22. (Previously Presented) A multi-layer fuel hose according to claim 4, wherein the characteristic of the hose indicated by the marking sections is a date, production number or a material.

23. (Currently Amended) A multi-layer fuel hose for a motor vehicle constructed to allow tracing back of individual process steps performed during manufacturing of the hose house, the hose consisting of:

an opaque, extruded inner layer;

an opaque, outer layer extruded on the inner layer; and

more than one marking section arranged between the inner layer and the outer layer in a longitudinally spaced relationship with one another in a recurring mode of arrangement such that at least one section can be read when the hose has been divided into sections, each marking section comprising more than one letter and/or more than one number arranged in an order that indicates a characteristic of the hose and adapted to be read making use of X rays to determine the characteristic of the hose to thereby allow tracing back of individual process steps performed during manufacturing of the hose.

24. (Previously Presented) A multi-layer fuel hose according to claim 23, wherein the inner layer and the outer layer are made of rubber.

25. (New) A multi-layer hose according to claim 1, wherein the hose comprises an inner bore having a diameter sufficient to supply fuel to an engine of a motor vehicle.

26. (New) A multi-layer fuel hose according to claim 4, wherein the hose comprises an inner bore having a diameter sufficient to supply fuel to an engine of a motor vehicle.

27. (New) A multi-layer fuel hose according to claim 23, wherein the hose comprises an inner bore having a diameter sufficient to supply fuel to an engine of a motor vehicle.